

The Free Lance

Devoted to the Agricultural, Commercial and Manufacturing Interests of Fredericksburg and the Tidewater and Piedmont Country.

VOL. 15.—No. 111

FREDERICKSBURG VA THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 1899.

Price 3 cents

We Must Clean Up. A Chance For You.

Our annual "clean up" Sale of all Summer Goods is now in progress. You know that means cut prices at this store. Our object is to make room and have cash for Fall Stock, and to do this we are willing to turn our balance of Summer Goods over to you at half prices in some cases and big reductions in others.

DON'T DELAY.

Come at once and get the choicest—
Beautiful Summer Wash Silks, sold at 50 cents, now 39c.
Sheer Fine Imported Organdies, sold at 75c, now 50c.
Lovely Fine Lawns, in the season's new designs, sold at 12c, now 9c.
Best quality Percales, yard wide, fast colors, sold at 10c, now 7c.
A lot of Fine Printed Cambrics, almost a yard wide, sold at 10c, now 7c.
A small lot of 12c. Woven Madras to clean up at 7c.
A lot of Striped and Dotted P. K's sold at 12c, to clean up at 9c.
A lot of Beautiful Dress Gingham sold at 8c, now 5c.
An elegant Assortment of this season's 8 and 10c. Lawns to clean up at 5c. a yard.
Fast color Fig. and Striped 40 inch wide Lawns now 5c.

Shirt Waist.

A Big lot of Ready Made Shirt Waists, this season's style, all to go at one price.
Every Waist that sold for \$1.00, and all that sold for 85c and 75c, put on same table, and you can take your choice of the whole lot at 50c. Sizes, 32 to 42 bust measure.

PARASOLS.

Hot suns mean burnt and tanned skins unless you have a Parasol or Sun Umbrella. We want to close out what Parasols we have left, so here we sell all at \$1.00 for \$1.00; \$2.00 kind for \$1.00; \$3.00 kind for \$2.00. Children's Parasols also at reduced prices.

COME AND SEE US ABOUT YOUR WANTS. E. W. STEARNS, OPERA HOUSE DRY GOODS STORE.

JOHN M. GRIFFIN, —DEALER IN—

Staple and Fancy Groceries,
Fine Liquors, Tobacco and Cigars.
Agency Pabst Milwaukee Lager Beer and best tonic. We also have in stock Ales, Porter, Stout, etc. 600 B Street.

SPECIAL. SPECIAL.

We have just received a large lot of
FLOWER POTS AND CUSPIDORS.

Gardeners, we can give you lowest prices.
SPECIAL PRICES ON DOZEN LOTS.

BOSTON VARIETY STORE.

Next to McCracken & Bro.

P. V. D. CORWAT, CHARLES HENDON, A. RANDOLPH HOWARD

Conway, Gordon & Garnett BANKERS

COMMERCE STREET, FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

Bank opens 9 A. M. Bank closes 6 P. M. Collections made on all points

ESTABLISHED 1867.

GERMANIA ROLLER MILLS.

MYER & BRULLE, Proprietors, Fredericksburg, Va.

We have the latest and most complete Patent Roller System in our Mills, use none but the very choicest Virginia Wheat and our Flour is the finest that can be made, excepting none. We make the following brands:

MYER & BRULLE'S BEST PATENT SUPERIOR
GERMANIA XXXXX EXTRA, GERMANIA XX EXTRA,
GERMANIA XXXXX EXTRA, WHITE PLAIN EXTRA.

We make Choice Family Meal, Mill Feeds of all kinds. We pay the Highest Cash Prices for Wheat and Corn at Mill or Store. Write us a call before you buy or sell.

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Contractors.

GEORGE W. WROTON, BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR.

Will furnish Plans and Specifications, will contract for erecting all classes of Buildings, furnish hands by the day and superintend the work in town or country.

Office reasonable.

A. MASON GARNER, Contractor and Builder,

Princess Anne St., Opposite Tyler's Foundry.

Guarantees all work in his line to be done promptly and in a first-class manner at rock bottom prices.

CHAS. WALLACE & BRO.

Whiskey from \$1.20 per gal. up.

GINS, HUMS, BRANDIES, BEER, AND BOTTLED LIQUORS,

and all goods to be found in a wholesale and retail Liquor and Tobacco Store.

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215 and 217 Commerce St.

FINE TEAS,

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Pure Rye Whiskey, Pure Old Rum, Pure Holland Gin, Pure Sherry Wine, Pure French Brandy, Pure Apple Brandy, Pure Peach Brandy, Pure Blackberry Brandy. A complete stock of Liquors for medicinal use at the old Reliable Grocery Store.

CHAS. WALLACE & BRO.

Cor. Main Commerce St.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

HARDWARE

S. R. BEALE,

having bought out the entire Hardware Stock of John A. Stone, will continue the

Hardware Business

at the OLD STAND, on COMMERCE ST., and is now laying in a full NEW STOCK of GOODS in the Hardware Line which he will sell at the

Lowest Cash Prices.

Go and see him before you buy.

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Hardware and Hardware Specialties

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FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

Electric Bell for Night Calls.

'Phone 33.

General Hardware

Barb Wire, Guns, Pistols, Razors, Knives, etc., will be sold at reduced prices to suit the times. Money can be saved by purchasing at SCOTT'S Hardware Store.

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Confectioner and Baker,

No. 919 B Street, Fredericksburg, Va.

Give me a call when you want CONFECTIONS, ICE CREAM AND PASTRY orders always receive prompt attention.

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Wood's Grass

and
Clover Seeds.

The fullest information about Grasses and Clovers—soils the different sorts adapted for—best combinations to give largest results in hay or pasture—care of pastures and meadows, &c., &c. A postal will bring this book to you. Prices and samples of Grass and Clover Seeds sent on application.

T. W. WOOD & SONS, Seedsmen, Richmond, Va.

Dickens's Farewell to America.
By Geo. C. Romd.

Charles Dickens first visited our country in 1842. At that time his observations concerning his countrymen on this side of the Atlantic as expressed in American Notes and Martin Chuzzlewit, were anything but flattering. He visited America for the second and last time in the fall of 1867, after a lapse of exactly a quarter of a century. He gave a course of public readings from his own works in New York city soon after his arrival. He entertained immense audiences in the principal cities of the United States during the following winter, and after he had travelled extensively, he returned again to the great metropolis on his way homeward. On this occasion he gave a second and farewell course at Steiway Hall.

At this time I was a law student at Columbia College in New York city, and occupied a fourth floor room with two other law students, Patton and Atkins. Patton had a relative who travelled in this country with Dickens, and who had the job of selling his photographs and special-ty prepared copies of his readings. Patton would frequently go up to the hall and help his friend, passing through the audience before the opening and during the recess, selling the books and pictures, and thus had a splendid chance to hear and see the great novelist. Patton had a wonderful memory and he would entertain us by the hour with imitations of Dickens. I supposed at the time that they were caricatures, but found afterward that some of them were very exact renderings.

It should be borne in mind that Dickens did not read directly from his novels. He re-wrote passages specially adapted to public reading, usually abridging them largely, but often changing and sometimes amplifying. These readings were printed and bound in paper, each evening's reading by itself. I have before me, as I write, a copy of his "Farewell Reading in America," and to it is attached the stub of my ticket bearing the date, Monday, April 20, 1868, which I have preserved as a memento of that interesting occasion.

Of course, from the time of Dickens's arrival, I expected to hear him once at least. But all the tickets for the first course were sold, even before Mr. J. F. Monroe, Commerce street, Fredericksburg, Va. For favor it has no superior at the price. It is smooth, pleasant to drink, and there is not a head-ache in a gallon. Come and try it, and you will buy no other.

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Have obtained the highest reputation for purity, cleanliness and germination, causing our business in the same to become one of the largest in the United States. Handling these Seeds in the large quantities that we do, also enables us to sell same at the lowest possible prices, quality considered.

WOOD'S SEED BOOK gives

the fullest information about Grasses and Clovers—soils the different sorts adapted for—best combinations to give largest results in hay or pasture—care of pastures and meadows, &c., &c. A postal will bring this book to you. Prices and samples of Grass and Clover Seeds sent on application.

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our days had suddenly made his bow before us.

The last sentence read to an American audience was at the close of the trial, after Pickwick had been beaten and fled by the jury, when Sam Weller's father suddenly appeared and utters his indignant protest at the way the trial had been carried on, closing with the mournful refrain, "O, Sammy, Sammy, you won't there a hall-b!" As Dickens uttered these words, he bowed low and retired. His audience rose bodily, waving and cheering and calling for "a speech." They continued to call until the novelist reappeared and the audience seated themselves. My friend Patton had told me there would be a determined effort to call him out and I had prepared myself with pencil and paper, and believe I succeeded in getting Dickens's "Farewell to America," word for word. If it has ever been correctly published before, I do not know it. It was as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: The shadow of one word has impended over me all this evening, and the time has come when that shadow must fall. It is but a short word, but such things are not measured by their length and not shorter word express the whole round of human existence. When I read David Copperfield here last Thursday evening, I felt there was more than usual significance for me in Mr. Pecksniff's declaration, 'My future life lies over the sea; and when I closed my book last night, I knew full well that I was about to establish an alibi which would have satisfied the elder Mr. Weller himself. (Laughter.)

The relations that have arisen between us in this hall, relations at least sustained on my side by earnest devotion to my task, and sustained on yours by the kindest sympathy and encouragement are now to be broken for ever. But I entreat you to believe that in passing out of my sight I will not pass out of my mind. I shall often recall you, equally by my winter frolics and in the green English summer weather—never as a public audience always rather as a host of personal friends; always with a glad remembrance of the evening and the evening's work.

Ladies and gentlemen, I bid you farewell. God bless you and God bless the land in which I leave you.

On reaching my room I found Patton rehearsing Dickens's farewell to our club, both of them having just arrived from Steiway Hall. With the aid of Patton's remarkable memory and my own hasty notes and as assisted by Atkins, I sat down and wrote out the speech with which the distinguished novelist passed from the American platform.

The next morning we hunted through the New York papers and found several versions of it, but none of them were perfect, and all of them had some egregious errors, pointed out to me by several others with whom I conversed on the subject. For these reasons, I am inclined to believe that the version which I have given is the only correct one extant.

It may be of interest to know that Dickens was accustomed to confine himself strictly to the program of his readings, as previously announced. The only other instance, where he departed from this custom and added a speech, was at his final reading in Boston, a few days before. Hence we had a right to consider that he was highly favored.

Altogether I considered my venture a success. I had paid for my ticket and a copy of the readings, and had made a clear profit of \$10.75. In addition, I had the memory of an

evening which has been a perpetual and increasing delight.

On the next morning, April 21st, 1868, Charles Dickens sailed from the port of New York. On the 15th of March, 1870, he gave his last public reading in his beloved England. And on the 9th of June following, he suddenly set sail for "the undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns." From the Southern Magazine, Manchester, Va.

Good Enough to Take.

The finest quality of loaf sugar is used in the manufacture of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and the roots used in its preparation give it a flavor similar to that of maple syrup, making it very pleasant to take. As a medicine for the cure of coughs, colds, la grippe, croup and whooping cough it is unequalled by any other. It always cures, and cures quickly. For sale by M. M. Lewis, druggist.

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We are now manufacturing

FIRST-CLASS ICE

PURE SPRING WATER.

This ice is an absolutely pure article, because the water is boiled and filtered before being frozen.

Get the best article at the Lowest Price by purchasing from

The Fredericksburg Ice Co.

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Are you frequently hoarse?

Do you have that annoying tickling in your throat? Would you feel relieved if you could raise something? Does your cough annoy you at night, and do you raise more mucus in the morning?

Then you should always keep on hand a bottle of

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

If you have a weak throat you cannot be too careful. You cannot begin treatment too early. Each cold makes you more liable to another, and the last one is always harder to cure than the one before it.

Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Pectoral

prevents the lungs from colds.

Help at Hand.

If you have any complaint whatever and desire the best medical advice you can possibly obtain, write the doctor freely. You will receive a prompt reply.

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